

REMARKS

Claims 1, 11, and 18 are amended to include the features of objected to claim 8. These amendments should be entered because they reduce the issues on appeal since all claims now include the features of claim 8, which the Examiner stated was allowable subject matter.

No new matter is added. No amendment made is related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made is for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claims, unless Applicants argue herein that such amendment is made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

Claims Objection

Claim 21 was objected to because the Examiner believes it is in improper dependent form. The Examiner contends that both claim 11 and claim 21, which depends from claim 11, requires “the packaging material being on the fuse...” This is incorrect. Claim 11 states, “a packaging material formed *over* the fuse” and claim 21 states, “the packaging material is formed *on* the fuse.” (*emphasis added.*) Thus, claim 11 states, “over” and claim 21 states “on.” The phrases “over” and “on” have different meanings. The phrase “over” means an intervening layer may be present. Hence, the packaging material may be formed on a layer that is formed on the fuse. In this situation, the packaging material is over the fuse, but not on the fuse. The phrase “on” means that there is no intervening layer. In other words, the packaging material is in contact with the fuse. Thus, the phrase “on” further defines the phrase “over” because “on” means that no intervening layer is present. Thus, claim 21 further limits the subject matter of claim 11 and the objection should be withdrawn.

Claims Rejections

Claims 1-7, 9, 11-18, 20 and 21 are patentable over the prior art.

The Examiner stated that claim 8 was allowable subject matter because of the features of the first and second interconnect and the circuits and their relationship with the fuse. Independent claims 1, 11, and 18 have been amended to include all the features of original claim 8. Therefore, all claims are allowable for at least this reason.

The Office Action contains numerous statements characterizing the claims, the specification, and the prior art. Regardless of whether such statements are addressed by Applicants, Applicants refuse to subscribe to any of these statements, unless expressly indicated by Applicants.

Please contact Applicant's practitioner listed below if there are any issues that can be resolved by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

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